



United States Army Program Executive Office Missiles and Space



Huntsville, Alabama

July 2006

Lower Tier Project Office (LTPO)

Introduction

The Lower Tier Project Office (LTPO) manages a number of programs, including air and missile defense weapons and related warning systems. Current systems are the PATRIOT air defense system, the PATRIOT Advance Capability-3 (PAC-3) system, the Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS), and the Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS).

Mission

The mission of the LTPO is to develop, acquire, field, and sustain air defense systems to defend the lower tier of the Theater Air and Missile Defense (TAMD) architecture. This includes defending troops and fixed assets from short- and medium-range ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and other air-breathing threats such as fixed- or rotary-wing aircraft.

System Description

PATRIOT is a highly deployable defensive missile weapon system. Originally designed during the cold war era for fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, the system has been upgraded to seek and destroy ballistic missiles. The PATRIOT air defense system made its now-famous battlefield debut against ballistic missiles in Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

Since Desert Storm, PATRIOT Advanced Capability or PAC-3 upgrades focused on complex nose-to-nose, hit-to-kill technologies, allowing total ballistic missile destruction. PAC-3's mission is to defend the lower tier of the theater air and missile defense architecture. This includes defending troops and fixed assets from short- and medium-range ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and other air-breathing threats such as fixed- or rotary-wing aircraft.

The MEADS system is a highly mobile defensive missile system developed under an international effort with the United States, Italy, and Germany. MEADS will defend the maneuver forces and fixed assets from short- and medium-range ballistic missiles, large-caliber rockets, cruise missiles, and other air-breathing threats such as aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicles. The system will consist of surveillance and fire control launchers, missiles, and Tactical Operations Centers or TOCs. It will possess a stand-alone and tailorable operational capability.

As MEADS elements are developed, they will be integrated into the PATRIOT system to provide increased capabilities to the warfighter without their having to wait for a complete system to be fielded. This is being done as part of the Combined Aggregate Program (CAP) managed within the LTPO.

The Joint Tactical Ground Station or JTAGS is a transportable information processing system that supports forward-deployed Combatant Commanders with early warning data on ballistic missile launches. The five JTAGS systems are a key part of the U.S. Strategic Command's or STRATCOM's Tactical Event System and are operated by joint Army-Navy crews, providing continuous, all-weather threat monitoring. As an in-theater asset, JTAGS provides assured data receipt from sensors and transmits processed information over a variety of in-theater communications assets. The next evolution of JTAGS will be the Multi-Mission Mobile Processor.

The Multi-Mission Mobile Processor (M3P) will provide significant improvements in all areas of theater missile defense performance with a significantly reduced missile warning area, higher quality cueing of active defense systems, decreased missile launch search area, and faster initial report times. The M3P utilizes Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS) common-based software for improved tracker performance, message correlation, and future upgrades. Other benefits include enhanced situational awareness through dual-monitor workstations, improved communications, enhanced antennas, redundant processors, and improved supportability.



For more information, please contact:

U.S. Army PEO Missiles and Space
Lower Tier Project Office
Attention: SFAE-MSLS-LT
P.O. Box 1500
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801
(256) 955-3240

Visit the PEO MS website:

<http://www.msl.army.mil>

Lower Tier Project Office (LTPO)



**PAC-3 Provides the Only Combat-Proven
Missile Defense System in the World**

Proven Hit-to-Kill Capability

**Anti-Tactical Ballistic Missile Coverage
at Point-of-Attack**

**Continuous Increase in Protection
for the Warfighter**

**Improved Deployability and
Maneuverability**

Fully Netted and Distributed

Early Warning of Missile Attack

United States Army Program Executive Office
MISSILES AND SPACE

